

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AGR-10 RSC-01 AID-05 EB-07 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10

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DRAFTED BY IO/AGR:PJBYRNES:DKS

APPROVED BY IO:RDMOREY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, WFC, FAO, AORG

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

REF: ROME 00429

1. IN FRIDAY MEETING BETWEEN DG AND PERMREPS AND IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH LATTER, FODAG SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING: WE SEE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT AS SMALL UNIT, PERHAPS 5-7 PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS, TO SERVICE AND ASSIST WFC AND HAVE ACCESS TO TECHNICAL EXPERTISE FAO AND OTHER AGENCIES AS REQUIRED.

2. WE AGREE WITH WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE DECISION THAT SECRETARIAT BE WITHIN FRAMEWORK FAO AND ASSUME THIS MEANT ADMINISTRATIVELY TIED TO ORGANIZATION AND PROBABLY PAID BY FAO. WE THINK, HOWEVER, THAT ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE BETWEEN DG AND SYG TO HAVE THIS SECRETARIAT RESPONSIBLE FROM A WORK STANDPOINT TO THE WFC ITSELF. IN OUR VIEW, THIS DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE WILL BE NECESSARY IF
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WFC IS TO CARRY OUT THE HIGH LEVEL OVER-ALL COORDINATING

ROLE ASSIGNED IT AND IN ESTABLISHING ITS OWN PROGRAM OF ACTION AS DIRECTED BY THE CONFERENCE RESOLUTION.

3. WE HOPE DG AND SYG WILL ALSO SEE SECRETARIAT'S ROLE IN THIS LIGHT AND EFFECT APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS ASAP. ARGUMENTS BETWEEN AGENCIES OVER CONTROL OF THIS UNIT OR

TO WHOM IT WILL BE SUBORDINATE (REFTEL) CAN ONLY BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF SUCH MATTERS DELAYED OR INTERFERED WITH WORK OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT BODY.

4. WE DO NOT AGREE WITH SYG VIEW THAT SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE HEADED BY PERSON AT UNDER-SECRETARY LEVEL BUT RATHER FEEL A D-2, OR AT MOST AN ADG, WOULD BE ADEQUATE.

5. IN FODAG PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH DG YOU SHOULD EXPRESS OUR HOPE HE AND SYG CAN QUIETLY NEGOTIATE ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT ON SECRETARIAT. BRINGING ISSUE BEFORE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS AS MENTIONED REFTL CAN ONLY EXACERBATE ISSUE. KISSINGER

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